

Appleby Archaeology

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Tuesday October 15th 2013 at Pear Tree Cottage, Skirwith.

Present

Phyl Rouston	Chair
Heather Edwards	
Martin Joyce	Newsletter
Martin Railton	Research
Richard Stevens	Secretary

Apologies

Carol Dougherty
Mike Godfrey
Stephen Walker

Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

1/10/13 Matters arising

1/3/13

- Talk to the 5th and 6th forms at the Grammar School: Richard will contact Trish.

5/7/13

- Richard explained that he had submitted the CBA Local Group Forum response form & had received an enthusiastic acknowledgement from CBA. He said he would keep the committee informed of developments.

7/3/13

- W-A Archaeology have kindly offered to print the newsletter at cost in future. The committee asked Martin to pass on our thanks. Martin J has a good stock of paper which he will pass on to Martin R. A sample issue will be tried using a PDF file. It was suggested that W-A Archaeology invoice App Arch half yearly.
- The electronic version of the newsletter would not now be produced although postage costs may affect this decision in the future.

2/10/13 Membership

Phyl noted that Carol had advised that there were three new members at least one of which had joined as a result of taking part in the Brackenber excavation. The total number of members stands at 72, an all-time high.

3/10/13 Treasurer's Report

Mike had advised by email that the current bank balance was £619.92 with no outstanding bills or invoices.

4/10/13 Research

Martin R updated the meeting on the results of the previous week's excavation at Brackenber.. The dig had revealed that the site consisted of a kerbed cairn overlain with an earth mound. The cairn appears undisturbed. Unfortunately, probably because a large area had been opened, there had been insufficient time for the excavation to reach the bottom of the mound and so little could be currently said about burials. However, some flint tools had been found. Paul Frodsham had promised to complete the excavation in 2014 as part of the Altogether Archaeology Project, together with post excavation work from this and last year. Martin R would take this up with him, however, Paul had admitted that Brackenber was a low priority module in the overall project.

Following on from this, there was a general discussion about the viability of Appleby Archaeology working under the Altogether Archaeology Project in the future and it was thought that it might be more feasible to look for our own funding again. Richard explained that the CBA Forum on local groups intended to run some day schools on various subjects, including accessing funding and that he would ensure that someone from the committee would attend.

Martin R promised to check to see if there were any newly ploughed fields with a view to organising another fieldwalking day.

5/10/13 Correspondence

Richard had received the CLHF Bulletin and speaker's list.

6/10/13 Programme

Richard said that the Wallsend trip had been generally thought a success, although once again there was a poor turnout, only 9 members from a total membership at the time of 69.

Phyl suggested that the group could consider re-running some of the very early trips for next summer's walks, since most of the current membership had not been part of the group in those days. There was general agreement.

Two speakers were still needed for the AGM/Member's evening. Chris Wilson was suggested, together with Steve Thompson. In case no volunteers were forthcoming, Martin R said he would talk on something, however, Heather would approach Steve in the first instance and Phyl would raise the subject at the November meeting.

There was a suggestion from Martin J that if biscuits were provided with coffee & tea at the winter season talks, more people might be tempted to stay and chat. Phyl said that this had been suggested before but there was a problem with not knowing how many to buy. Buying too many would likely result in waste. It was agreed that one packet would be tried and that it would be acceptable to throw away any remaining after the evening had ended.

7/10/13 Any other business

Phyl noted that the chairs in the Public Hall at the first meeting had been laid out at 90 degrees to the stage, resulting in the necessity for Martin R to move them all prior to the talk. She said she would contact the hall manager to discuss this and also ask if anything could be done about the sound in the room - Jamie Quartermain's Q & A session had been inaudible to many in the audience.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm.

Date and Time of next meeting: **Thursday December 5th 2013 at White House, Brampton at 7.30pm.**